

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
4 January 2007 (04.01.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/001980 A2(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 17/30 (2006.01)(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2006/023807

(22) International Filing Date: 20 June 2006 (20.06.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/692,125 20 June 2005 (20.06.2005) US
11/323,486 30 December 2005 (30.12.2005) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **EBAY INC.** [US/US]; 2145 Hamilton Avenue, San Jose, California 95125 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **GUPTA, Raghav** [IN/US]; 1279 Poplar Ave., #118, Sunnyvale, California 94086 (US).(74) Agents: **MCCRACKIN, Ann M.** et al.; Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A., P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MA, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

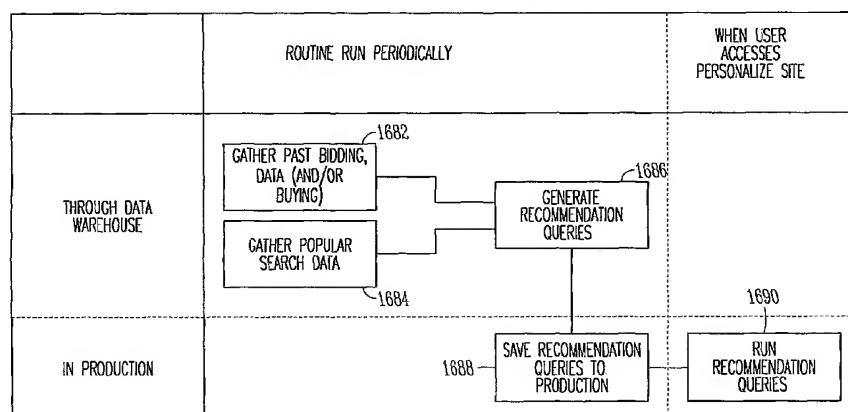
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SYSTEM TO GENERATE RELATED SEARCH QUERIES

1680

LOGIC FOR GENERATING RECOMMENDATION QUERIES



(57) Abstract: System and methods are described to provide new recommendations to a search interface to assist users in navigating toward new searches that are likely to generate results aligned with the user's searching intentions. An algorithm analyzes previous search sessions to determine additional locations for the user to go. In an example of a commerce system, new information placement may be added to the top of search and listings pages to show links to new searches that can be run by the user. On a periodic basis, the search recommendations may be updated, for example based on the most current changes in user behavior.

SYSTEM TO GENERATE RELATED SEARCH QUERIES

5

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the priority benefit of U.S. Application Serial No. 11/323,486 filed December 30, 2005, which claims the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No 60/692,125, filed on June 20, 2005, which
10 applications are incorporated herein by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present application relates generally to the field of data access and searching.

15

BACKGROUND

Networked commerce systems, such as Internet-based auction systems, depend upon user specified searches to locate items of commerce. While some users are highly skilled at locating desired items, a large segment of users lack
20 knowledge helpful in navigating such systems. As a result, inefficient use of the system and a lack of user traffic to some commerce items can be experienced. Inefficient use of the system requires system operators to employ more computing and other resources than may actually be required.

To increase sales, some commerce systems have provided recommendations
25 to users based upon purchasing performance of prior users. For example, when viewing a product the system may indicate that users who purchased the product also purchased a second identified product. This system does not improve the efficiency of the searching system but merely provides suggestions to increase sales.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a page view of a user interface;
Figure 2 is a flow chart illustrating a method of one embodiment;
Figures 3-5 are additional page views of user interfaces;
5 Figure 6 is a flow chart illustrating a method of one embodiment;
Figures 7-13 are additional page views of user interfaces;
Figure 14 is block diagram illustrating a network-based computer system;
Figure 15 is a database diagram illustrating an example database;
Figure 16 illustrates example logic for generating recommendation queries
10 based on past user interaction; and
Figure 17 shows a diagrammatic representation of a machine in the example form of a computer system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

15 Methods and systems to search or access a data source are described. In the following description, for purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the invention. It will be evident, however, to one skilled in the art that the invention may be practiced without these specific details.

20 In one example embodiment, new recommendations are provided to a search interface to assist users in navigating toward new searches that are likely to generate results aligned with the user's searching intentions. In one embodiment, an algorithm analyzes previous search sessions to determine a "next best place" for the user to go. In an example of a commerce system, new information placement may
25 be added to the top of search and listings pages to show links to new searches that can be run by the user. On a periodic basis, the search recommendations may be updated, for example based on the most current changes in user behavior. For example see the page view 100 of Figure 1, illustrating example information presented to a user on a web page. Where a search term "Ferrari" in "all categories" provides related search suggestions of "Lamborghini", "Porsche", "Bentley",
30 "Aston Martin" and "Maserati."

An embodiment seeks to improve the searching experience by identifying and directing users to searches that have proven successful in the past. Users who execute one of the search recommendations may be more successful searching for, and locating, data items of interest. The recommended additional search options
5 may prove useful to non-expert users of a data resource, specifically those users who need more guidance on which search terms they should use to successfully find data items on a data resource. As a result, the overall system efficiency may be improved and computing resources saved by reducing inefficient user search strategies.

10 User provided searches that are determined to be of poor quality can include offensive terms, terms that are not relevant, and terms that drive the user more in a particular direction than another (e.g., toward a particular type of brand instead of a competing brand, in a commerce environment). As such, recommended alternate searches can be provided.

15 In one example embodiment, a search and recommendation engine seeks to provide recommendations for a further search (e.g., query terms) based on the observed (or recorded) behavior of users of the search and recommendation engine with respect to an information resource. For example, the search and recommendation engine, after having received a first search query including the
20 term "Toyota", may recommend a further search query including the term "Honda". The recommendation of the further search query is based upon, in one embodiment, having observed (or recorded) that a certain threshold number of users provided search queries including the term "Honda", subsequent to providing a search query including the term "Toyota".

25 Further, in the example embodiment, whether or not the search and recommendation engine recommends the further search query (and also how the search engine ranks the further search query) may be based on post-search user or system behavior (or activities) with respect to the information resource. For example, where the search engine recorded that the further search query (e.g.,
30 including the term "Honda") previously delivered less than a predetermined number

of search results, a recommendation ranking with respect to the further search query (relative to other candidate search queries) may be reduced.

Where the search and recommendation engine recorded the presence (or absence) of certain post-search user behavior, this information may be utilized to rank the further search query and/or utilized to determine whether to provide the further search query as a recommended search query. For example, in the context of a commerce system, where the recorded past user behavior indicated that, subsequent to a particular candidate search recommendation, a threshold number of users purchased (or entered into bidding or some other transaction activity) with respect to one or more products/services identified by the particular candidate search recommendation, such a particular candidate search recommendation may receive a higher recommendation ranking than a further candidate search recommendation that did not result in transaction activity. In one example, the search and recommendation engine may track the number of users that performed search A, then performed search B, and then performed certain post-search activity with respect to a result set returned by search B. Accordingly, it will be the appreciated that a recommended search query (e.g., search B) may or may not include terminology that is common with a preceding, base search query (e.g., search A) that is utilized to generate (or identify) the recommended search query.

In one example embodiment, an algorithm implemented by the search and recommendation engine analyzes tracked (or logged) session data to determine other searches that are later in the path of page views for users who ran the same (or a similar) query as is currently being run, and who were eventually successful in a specified or predetermined activity (e.g., in placing a bid, in a network-based auction system).

Referring to both Figure 2 and Table 1 a method is described for an algorithm 105 to generate search recommendations that can be offered to a user. At operation 110, Tracked data is monitored and raw session information is written based on LOOKBACK_PERIOD and SAMPLING_RATE configurations. At operation 120, the session data is trimmed by describing each unique page view by two variables only: the search phrase (term) and the category constraint. The search

term and category constraint are an input variable that refers to a combination of a keyword (or other search phrase or input) and a category constraint. The keyword can be null if there is a category constraint and the category constraint can be the root category if there is a keyword applied. For each Searching page (A), the search phrase (A1) and the category constraint (A2) are logged.

At operation 130, for every unique page view (A), it is determined which page was viewed immediately after (B), and which page was viewed immediately after that (C). At 140, each entry in the table (A, then B, then C) is split into two rows, where the first row is the unique page view in question followed by the next page view (A then B) and the second row is the page view in question followed by the page view after that (A then C). Now, each unique page view should have two rows in this table, unless the page view was the last or second to last in the user's session.

At operation 150, all Search page pairs are eliminated where the category constraint is not the same for both pages or the search phrase is the same for both pages. This may leave a list of Searching page pairs where the category constraint has not changed but the search phrase has. In another embodiment, the search pairs are not eliminated where the category constraint is not the same, but the search phrase is the same. In this embodiment, the system generates recommendations to the user to perform the same search phrase in a different category. Further, where both the category constraint and search phrase change the system can provide a recommendation of expected success based upon prior user performances.

The number of times that each pair of Searching pages (A then B) appears in the exact same order is counted at operation 160 and that number is logged for each Searching page pair (A then B occurred N times). At operation 170, all Searching page pair counts (A then B occurred N times) are eliminated where the number of times that sequence was run (N) was less than the MIN_TRAFFIC_COUNT parameter.

All Searching page pairs are optionally eliminated at operation 180 where the category constraint is in the Mature Audiences category, any word in either of the two search phrases is on a blacklist for that site, or the search phrase contained

complex search operators (such as minus, parentheses, etc.) For each starting Searching page (A), at operation 190 the method finds and records the series of “next Searching pages” (B’s) in descending order of how many times the Searching page pair was counted (For A: B occurred 12 times, C occurred 9 times, D occurred 5 6 times, E occurred 4 times). Finally, at operation 195, the list of “next Searching pages” for each starting Searching page (A) is truncated so that it does not exceed the MAX_REL_SEARCHES parameter.

Configuration	Description	Configurable By
SAMPLING_RATE	This is the percentage of sessions that are fed into the Related Searches raw data in step 1 (below).	Site
LOOKBACK_PERIOD	This is the amount of time the Related Searches algorithm may look back to consider which searches are related to which Searching pages. Data older than this period may be ignored.	Site
UPDATE_PERIODICITY	This is the length of time that should go by between updates to the Related Searches output. It establishes a frequency for updating the recommendations and feeding those updates into Production.	Global
MIN_TRAFFIC_COUNT	This is the minimum number of users who may have independently run the same sequence of searches for a Related Search recommendation to be considered good enough to be counted.	Site
MAX_REL_SEARCHES	This is the maximum number of Related Searches that should be stored for a given search phrase-category pair.	Global

TABLE 1

5 Displaying Related Searches on Search, Listings, and Cross-Stores Search

The Related Searches module may appear on Searching pages as an additional line of links below the search box, as shown in the page view 300 of Figure 3. The Related Searches placement is based on a current query that the user

is running. To determine which related searches to display, the system may analyze the search phrase and the category constraint, ignoring everything else, except attributes.

Related Searches may not appear if certain predetermined conditions are present, for example the current query contains an attribute constraint, or the current query is a title and description search. Whether the Related Searches placement appears, in the example embodiment, depends on whether there are recommendations available given the current search phrase and category constraint. Whether the Related Searches function is invoked also depend on whether other types of recommendations that also appear on the Searching page, in a further example embodiment.

Resolving Recommendation Conflicts

In one embodiment, there are multiple types of search modification (or enhancement) recommendations that can appear on Searching pages. For example, Related Searches, Spell Check, RIS (Recommendation in Search) and PTS (Product Titles in Search) search modification recommendations. Recommendations developed by the Relates Searches algorithm could conflict/overlap with some of the recommendations from the other systems. To avoid redundancy, conflict solution logic may determine how the recommendations co-exist, as explained below.

Resolving Conflicts with Spell Check

If a Spell Check recommendation surfaces (based on the existing surfacing rules), then the Related Searches module may not appear, in one example embodiment. See Figure 4 for a page view 400 of an example spell check recommendation correcting the term “chars” with “chairs”.

Resolving Conflicts with PTS

If one or more PTS (Product Titles in Search) recommendations surfaces (based on existing surfacing rules), then the Related Searches module may appear,

but the list of recommendations appearing may be filtered to avoid displaying recommendations that overlap too closely with PTS.

In one example embodiment, the only recommendations that may be allowed in the Related Searches module while PTS recommendations appear are ones where the search terms in the recommendation are not a superset of the search terms in the current query. Related Searches recommendations where additional keywords are added to the query but no keywords are changed may not be acceptable when PTS appears.

For example, if the user was searching on "Top Gun" in the DVDs category PTS recommendations appear; in this case a Related Searches recommendation for "Mission Impossible" is allowed, but a recommendation for "Top Gun DVD New" is not allowed. Referring to Figure 5, a page view 500 example is illustrated wherein a search for "Deception Point" provides related searches for "Angels and Demons" and "Digital Fortress".

Resolving Conflicts with RIS

The potential conflict between Related Searches and RIS (Recommendation in Search) can be handled by a new configuration (RIS_CONFLICT). There may be three possible values for RIS_CONFLICT, and the setting may determine exactly how Related Searches and RIS interact, see Table 2. As known to those in the art, a 'widget' is typically a rectangular section (like a module) on a web page used to demarcate different logical pieces of information on a web page. Most web pages are composed of various widgets showing different types of information. Sometimes users are given the choice to customize what widgets they want to see and which widgets they don't want to see.

RIS_CONFLICT Setting	Required Interaction
RIS Wins	If a RIS recommendation surfaces (based on the existing surfacing rules), then a Related Searches widget may not be shown
Related Searches Wins	If, based on the rules described above, a Related Searches widget would appear, then no RIS recommendations may be

RIS and Related Searches Coexist	shown Related Searches and RIS recommendations can appear independent of each other; however, in the event that the Related Searches widget does appear, the maximum number of RIS recommendations that could otherwise be shown (currently set to 3) would be reduced by 1 (down to 2)
----------------------------------	--

TABLE 2

5 The default setting for RIS_CONFLICT for all sites may be "RIS and Related Searches Coexist". The example page view 700 of Figure 7 shows how Related Searches and RIS recommendations may appear together based on this setting.

Determining the Recommendations to Display

10 When displayed subject to the conflict resolution rules above, the Related Searches widget may appear immediately below the search box. Recommendations may always appear as individual links oriented horizontally in a single row. Five site-specific configurations may govern the display properties of the Related Searches widget, as shown in Table 3.

15

Configuration	Description	Default Values
MIN_ATTEMPTED_SA_RECOS	This is the minimum number of search alternative-type recommendations that may be displayed before refined search-type recommendations are displayed	All sites: 0
MIN_ATTEMPTED_RS_RECOS	This is the minimum number of refined search-type recommendations that may be displayed before search alternative-type recommendations are displayed	All sites: 0
MAX_REL_SEARCHES	This represents the absolute maximum number of Related	All sites: 5

	Searches recommendations allowed to appear in the Related Searches widget, regardless of space constraints.	
TOTAL_CHAR_LIMIT	This represents the maximum number of characters allowed for the sum of all the Related Searches recommendations displayed in the widget (including comma separators and spaces), ensuring the recommendations do not take up more than one line in the HTML.	All other sites: 100
RECO_TYPE_ORDER	This is the order in which search alternatives and search refinements relative to each other.	All sites: search alternatives appear before search refinements

TABLE 3

Turning off Related Searches with MAX_REL_SEARCHES can be performed as follows. If MAX_REL_SEARCHES is set to 0, then Related Searches may not appear on any page (e.g., search, listings, cross-stores search, dynamic landing page (DLP), Personalized web page). Otherwise, MAX_REL_SEARCHES only has impact on the Searching pages (e.g., search, listings, cross-stores search). In other words, MAX_REL_SEARCHES influences search, listings, and cross-stores search only, but works as a universal feature shut-off switch when set to 0.

Given that MAX_REL_SEARCHES is not set to zero, recommendations may be selected to appear on search, listings, and cross-stores searches as follows. If the sum of MIN_ATTEMPTED_RS_RECOS and MIN_ATTEMPTED_SA_RECOS is greater than MAX_REL_SEARCHES, then both MIN_ATTEMPTEDRS_RECOS and MIN_ATTEMPTED_SA_RECOS may be ignored. (This situation makes no sense, and is an indication that the parameters have been incorrectly set.)

Referring to Figure 6 a flow chart 600 is described for managing the recommendations to display. At operation 610 all the available recommendations coming from the Related Searches system for the current search phrase-category pair are fetched. At operation 620 the recommendations are organized into their
5 respective types. If all of the keywords of the current search phrase can be found in the search phrase of the recommendation, then the recommendation type is "refined search", else, the recommendation type is "search alternative".

At operation 630 the top M search alternative-type recommendations are chosen (based on frequency count, as described in the Related Searches algorithm
10 section), where M is the setting for MIN_ATTEMPTED_SA_RECOS. Also choose the top N refined search-type recommendations (based on frequency count, as described in the Related Searches algorithm section), where N is the setting for MIN_ATTEMPTED_RS_RECOS. The chosen recommendations are sorted at operation 640 by type, then by frequency count highest to lowest, where the
15 preferred type is determined by the setting of RECO_TYPE_ORDER.

At operation 650, the next best recommendations of either type are chose until the total number of recommendations chosen is equal to
MAX_REL_SEARCHES. These recommendations may be ordered after the recommendations already selected. The sort order within this set may be based on
20 frequency count only. Finally, at operation 660 the complete list of chosen recommendations truncated starting from the last recommendation, until the total number of characters of the recommendations (taking into consideration the four characters that may separate each recommendation) is not greater than the
MAX_CHAR parameter.

25 If, after executing these rules, there are no Related Searches recommendations to display, then the Related Searches widget may not appear at all, and the space it otherwise would have taken up would collapse. When presented, the recommendations in the Related Searches widget may always be sorted by highest-relevance first.

30

Display Properties

In one example embodiment, Related Searches recommendations may be displayed based on the following rules. The section label may be "Related Searches" or the section label may be "Hot Keywords." After each
5 recommendation link (except the last recommendation link), a comma (not hyperlinked) may be shown. Additionally, characters may separate each recommendation, any words in a recommendation link that are being used in the current query may appear in bold, and any words in a recommendation link that are not being used in the current query may not appear in bold. For double byte sites
10 the font size may be standard and for all other sites, the font size may be small.

Figure 8A illustrates an example page view 800 for use in an English language location other Western locations. Similarly Figure 8B illustrates an example page view 810 for a non-English speaking location.

15

Navigation

Clicking on a Related Search recommendation may navigate the user to another Searching page where the previous search phrase is altered to the new search phrase but all other search parameters/filters/sorts have been maintained. For example, if no category constraint had been applied before the recommendation was
20 clicked, then no category constraint would be applied after. If a category constraint had been applied before the recommendation was clicked, then the same category constraint would also be applied after. Any additional filters (search options, tab selections, etc.) would also be maintained after the recommendation was clicked. The search that the user had applied would continue to be applied after the
25 recommendation was clicked. If the user was in cross-stores search, he would remain in cross-stores search. If he was in core search, he would remain in core search.

ssPageName Tracking

ssPageNames may be added to the end of the anchors for each recommendation link. The formatting of the appended ssPageName may be

5 &ssPageName = RELS:SA<X>:RS<Y>:<TYPE> where <X> may be an integer value (0 – n). It may be the count of the number of **search alternative**-type recommendations that were displayed in the related searches widget <Y> may be an integer value (0 – n). It may be the count of the number of **refined search**-type recommendations that were displayed in the related searches widget <TYPE> may

10 be one of two values: RS or SA. RS may be the value if the recommendation type (for that link) is refined search and SA may be the value if the recommendation type (for that link) is search alternative

Examples of ssPageNames:

15 Example 1: If two search alternative recommendations and three refined search recommendations are shown, the ssPageName for each search alternative recommendation may be &ssPageName = RELS:SA2:RS3:SA and the ssPageName for each refined search-type recommendation may be &ssPageName = RELS:SA2:RS3:RS.

20 Example 2: If zero search alternative recommendations and four refined search recommendations are shown, the ssPageName for each refined search-type recommendation may be &ssPageName=RELS:SA0:RS4:RS.

Recommendation Organization

25 If there are no recommendations available for a current search, such as used by a DLP (dynamic landing page), then the Related Searches module may not appear at all. A DLP is an intermediate search page which provides the user with multiple navigation options based upon their original search query, therefore for the purposes of this invention it can be classified as a search page. If there are

30 recommendations available for the current DLP search, then the Related Searches module may appear. To determine how to display the recommendations, they may

first be organized into search refinements and search alternatives based on the same logic as described above.

If there are search refinements but not search alternatives to display, the search refinements may take up the entire module. Search refinements may be
5 shown in three columns, ordered first by row, then by column, as shown below:

Link 1	Link 2	Link 3
Link 4	Link 5	Link 6
Link 7	Link 8	

10

A maximum of 15 search refinements can be shown when only search refinements appear.

If there are search alternatives but not search refinements to display, the search alternatives may take up the entire module. Search alternatives may be
15 shown in three columns, ordered first by row, then by column, as shown below:

Link 1	Link 2	Link 3
Link 4	Link 5	Link 6
Link 7	Link 8	

20

A maximum of 15 search alternatives can be shown when only search alternatives appear.

If both types of recommendations (search refinements and search alternatives) are available for the DLP, then the recommendations may be split into
25 two sections by a graphical horizontal separator. For each section, related searches may be shown in three columns, ordered first by row, then by column, as shown below:

Link 1	Link 2	Link 3
Link 4	Link 5	Link 6
Link 7	Link 8	

30

The ordering of the two subsections in the DLP may depend on the RECO_PREFERENCE_TYPE parameter setting described above. If RECO_PREFERENCE_TYPE is Search Refinements, then search refinements may appear above search alternatives. If RECO_PREFERENCE_TYPE is Search Alternatives, the search alternatives may appear above search refinements.

Regardless of whether the widget is split, a label for the applicable recommendation type may appear above the recommendations. The label for search refinements can be "Search Refinements:" and the label for search alternatives can be "Search Alternatives:".

In the base template, the total number of recommendation links appearing may be shown. (See site text "Top <N> related searches for <X>".) N always represents the total number of both types of recommendations. This supplemental text is not included in the specific item template.

A "Base Template" user interface 900 design with only search refinements appearing is illustrated in Figure 9A. A "Base Template" user interface 910 design with both recommendation types appearing is illustrated in Figure 9B. Similarly, a "Specific Item Template" interface design 1000 with only refines searches appearing is illustrated in Figure 10. Figure 11 illustrates a "Specific Item Template" interface 1100 design with both recommendation types appearing.

Displaying Related Searches on the personalized web page

Search pages, listing pages, and DLPs may require new functionality to write information to a cookie. When viewed, each of these types of pages may update the cookie. The following logic may be used to determine whether the Search results pages, Listings pages, and DLPs may update this cookie. If the search contains an attribute value constraint, do not update the cookie. If the search is a title and description search, do not update the cookie. If the search contains any complex search operators (such as minus or parentheses), do not update the cookie. Once these checks have been made, count the characters (bytes in the case of double-byte language) in the search phrase and assign that value to X, count the

PCT/US2006/023807

number of characters of the category ID and assign that value Y and sum X and Y. If X+Y is greater than MAX_COOKIE_BYTE_COUNT, do not update the cookie. Else, update the cookie with the exact string of the query and the category ID.

5 This information may be sufficient to be able to make recommendations in the personalized web page. The MAX_COOKIE_BYTE_COUNT setting may be 40. This ensures that no more than 40 bytes are taken up in the cookie, while maximizing the likelihood of being able to surface high quality recommendations on the personalized web page. This proposed value may be vetted through the appropriate channels to gain agreement.

10

Add Related Searches to Personalized web page

A new module within the personalized web page may be created to display recommendations coming from the Related Searches system. The input for the Related Searches module may be the search phrase and the category constraint of
15 the last search that the user ran. This "last search" may be from the current session or from a previous session. It may be available in the cookie. The output may be a list of recommendation links. The related searches widget may appear in the order of event recency, which is how the existing modules may already be ordered in production. The related searches widget may be titled "Related Searches".

20

If the last search did not include a category constraint:

The related searches widget may contain a subtitle of "Your last search was <X>. Here are some related searches." <X> represents the search phrase of the last search. <X> may be hyperlinked and clicking it may navigate the user to the search
25 results page for that search phrase. The requirements for displaying the recommendation links within the new Related Searches widget are exactly the same as for DLPs (described earlier). A Personalized web page 1200 for searching without category constraint is illustrated in Figure 12.

If the last search did contain a category constraint:

The related searches widget may contain a subtitle of “Your last search was <X> (in <Y>). <X> represents the search phrase of the last search. If the category constraint was a meta level category, <Y> is the meta category name. If the category constraint was an L2 category, <Y> is the meta category name followed by “>” followed by the L2 category name. If the category constraint was L3 or below, <Y> is the meta category name followed by ellipses (...) followed by “>” followed by the name of the category that was applied as a constraint.

The entire string “<X> (in <Y>)” is hyperlinked and may navigate to run a search with that same search phrase and that same category constraint. When there is a category constraint, the subheadings for Search Refinements and Search Alternatives may also be modified. The subheading for the Search Refinements portion may be “Search Refinements (in the same category)”. The subheading for the Search Alternatives portion may be “Search Alternatives (in the same category)”.

The actual search refinement and search alternative links may all navigate to a search where those keywords are used, but constrained to the same category as the last search (which the recommendations are based on) was constrained to. Figure 13 illustrates a Personalized web page 1300 for searching with category constraint.

Click-Through and Bid-Through Tracking

Click-through tracking may be accomplished through ssPageNames as defined above. Bid-through tracking and click-through *rates* may be determined. A variable may be added to indicate whether the Searching page contains related searches recommendations or not and whether the user clicked on a related searches recommendation to arrive at the current page. The values for this new variable may be for example 00, 01, 10, or 11, based on the following rules. The first digit may be 0 if the user did not click on Related Searches to arrive at the current page. The first digit may be 1 if the user clicked on Related Searches to arrive at the current page. The second digit may be 0 if Related Searches recommendations are not

being shown on the current page. The second digit may be 1 if Related Searches recommendations are being shown on the current page.

Terminology

5 The term “listing” or “item” is used to provide an example of data, and may refer to any data item, description, identifier, representation or information pertaining to a listing, service, offering or request. For example, a listing may be an auction or fixed-price offering (e.g., products such as goods and/or services), an advertisement, or a request for a listing or service. For the purposes of this
10 specification, the word “term” is synonymous with the word “phrase” and is also intended to include a plurality of words. Thus, “term” or “phrase” can be used to refer to any entry (or entries) a user enters into a search field when requesting a search of a data system. The term “term-category pair” (or phrase-category pair) may refer to a search term or phrase associated with a particular data category.

15

Transaction Facility

Figure 14 is block diagram illustrating a network-based computer system 1410, within which an example embodiment of the present invention may operate. While an exemplary embodiment of the present invention is described within the
20 context of the network-based computer system 1410 for the purposes of illustration, the invention will find application in many different types of computer-based, and network-based, facilities and data processing systems.

The network-based computer system 1410, includes one or more of a number of types of front-end servers that each includes at least one Dynamic Link
25 Library (DLL) to provide selected functionality. The system 1410 includes page servers 1412 that deliver web pages (e.g., mark-up language documents), picture servers 1414 that dynamically deliver images to be displayed within Web pages, listing servers 1416 that facilitate category-based browsing of listings, search servers 1418 that handle search requests to the system 1410 and facilitate keyword-
30 based browsing of data, and ISAPI servers 1420 that provide an intelligent interface to a back-end of the system 1410. The system 1410 also includes e-mail servers

1422 that provide, *inter alia*, automated e-mail communications to users of the network-based computer system 1410. In one embodiment, one or more administrative application functions 1424 facilitate monitoring, maintaining, and managing the system 1410. One or more API servers 1426 may provide a set of
5 API functions for querying and writing to the network-based computer system 1410. APIs may be called through the HTTP transport protocol. In one embodiment, information is sent and received using a standard XML data format. Applications utilized to interact (e.g., upload transaction listings, review transaction listings, manage transaction listings, etc.) with the network-based computer system 1410
10 may be designed to use the APIs. Such applications may be in an HTML form or be a CGI program written in C++, Perl, Pascal, or any other programming language. Exemplary APIs are more fully described in co-pending U.S. Patent Application 09/999,618, herein incorporated by reference.

The page servers 1412, API servers 1426, picture servers 1414, ISAPI
15 servers 1420, search servers 1418, e-mail servers 1422 and a database engine server 1428 may individually, or in combination, act as a communication engine to facilitate communications between, for example, a client machine 1430 and the network-based computer system 1410. In addition, the page servers 1412, API servers 1426, picture servers 1414, ISAPI servers 1420, search servers 1418, e-mail
20 servers 1422 and database engine server 1428 may individually, or in combination, act as a transaction engine to facilitate transactions between, for example, the client machine 1430 and the network-based computer system 1410. Furthermore, the page servers 1412, API servers 1426, picture servers 1414, ISAPI servers 1420, search servers 1418, e-mail servers 1422 and database engine server 1428 may
25 individually, or in combination, act as a display engine to facilitate the display of listings on, for example, the client machine 1430.

The back-end servers may include the database engine server 1428, a search index server 1432 and a credit card database server 1434, each of which maintains and facilitates access to a respective database.

30 In one embodiment, the network-based computer system 1410 is accessed by a client program, such as for example a browser 1436 (e.g., the Internet Explorer

distributed by Microsoft Corp. of Redmond, Washington) that executes on the client machine 1430 and accesses the network-based computer system 1410 via a network such as, for example, the Internet 1438. Other examples of networks that a client may utilize to access the network-based computer system 1410 include a wide area
5 network (WAN), a local area network (LAN), a wireless network (e.g., a cellular network), the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) network, or the like. The client program that executes on the client machine 1430 may also communicate with the network-based computer system 1410 via the API servers 1426.

10 Database Structure

Figure 15 is a database diagram illustrating an exemplary database 1540, maintained by and accessed via the database engine server 1428, which at least partially implements and supports the network-based computer system 1410. In one embodiment, the database engine server 1428 may maintain two databases, a
15 first database being maintained for listing (or offering) information that is not included within a virtual “store”, and a second database for listing (or offering) information that is presented via a virtual “store” supported by the network-based computer system 1410.

The database 1540 may, in one embodiment, be implemented as a relational
20 database, and includes a number of tables having entries, or records, that are linked by indices and keys. In an alternative embodiment, the database 1540 may be implemented as collection of objects in an object-oriented database.

The database 1540 includes a user table 1542 that contains a record for each user of the network-based computer system 1410. A user may operate as a seller, a
25 buyer, or both, when utilizing the network-based computer system 1410. The database 40 also includes listings tables 44 that may be linked to the user table 42. The listings tables 44 may include a seller listings table 46 and a bidder listings table 48. A user record in the user table 42 may be linked to multiple listings that are being, or have been, listed or offered for sale via the network-based computer
30 system 10. In one embodiment, a link indicates whether the user is a seller or a

bidder (or buyer) with respect to listings for which records exist within the listings tables 44.

The database 1540 also includes one or more divisions in the form of categories provided in category tables 1550. Each record within the category table 1550 may describe a respective category. In one embodiment, listings provided by the system 10 are arranged in the categories. These categories may be navigable by a user of the network-based computer system 1410 to locate listings in specific categories. Thus, categories provide a mechanism to locate listings that may be browsed. In addition or instead, an alphanumeric search mechanism may be provided by the search servers 1420 to allow a user to search for specific listings using search terms or phrases. In one embodiment, the category table 1550 describes multiple, hierarchical category data structures, and includes multiple category records, each of which describes the context of a particular category within the multiple hierarchical category structures. For example, the category table 1550 may describe a number of real, or actual, categories to which listing records, within the listings tables 1544, may be linked.

The database 1540 also includes one or more attributes tables 1552. Each record within the attributes table 1552 describes a respective attribute associated with a listing. In one embodiment, the attributes table 1552 describes multiple, hierarchical attribute data structures, and includes multiple attribute records, each of which describes the context of a particular attribute within the multiple hierarchical attribute structures. For example, the attributes table 1552 may describe a number of real, or actual, attributes to which listing records, within the listings tables 1544, may be linked. Also, the attributes table 1552 may describe a number of real, or actual, attributes to which categories, within the category table 1550, may be linked.

The database 1540 may also include a note table 1554 populated with note records that may be linked to one or more listing records within the listings tables 1544 and/or to one or more user records within the user table 1542. Each note record within the note table 1554 may include, *inter alia*, a comment, description, history or other information pertaining to a listing being offered via the network-based computer system 1410, to a user of the network-based computer system 1410.

The database 1540 may also include a targeted site table 1556 populated with targeted site records that may be linked to one or more listing records within the listings tables 1544 and/or to one or more user records within the user table 1542.

5 A number of other example tables may also be linked to the user table 1542, namely a user past aliases table 1558, a feedback table 1560, a feedback details table 1562, a bids table 1564, an accounts table 1566, and an account balances table 1568. In one embodiment, the database 1540 also includes a batch table 1570, a batch listings table 1572, and a listings wait table 1574.

10 In one embodiment, the system 1410 generates search recommendations to a user of the system 1410. The search recommendations may be based on past user interaction of the particular user with the system 1410, and search terms used in the network-based computer system 1410 (or any other systems associated with the network-based computer system 1410).

Referring to Figure 16, reference numeral 1680 generally indicates example
15 logic for generating recommendation queries based on past user interaction in the form of past bidding (and/or buying) history of the user, and the search terms. As shown at block 1682 past bidding (and/or buying) data of participating users is gathered at a data warehouse. In addition, popular search terms or phrases are gathered at block 1684 that, together with the past bidding (and/or buying) data is
20 used to generate recommendation queries (see block 1686). Thus, the data warehouse may identify and store search terms that are used most frequently (popular search terms) across one or more predetermined number of sites (e.g., web sites) associated with the network-based computer system 1410, and also identify data uniquely associated with each user. As shown at block 1688, the popular
25 search terms may then be passed periodically (e.g., on a daily basis) to a production facility, where the production facility may then project the popular search data against current listing inventory (see block 1690). In one embodiment, a search is conducted through each category, at each category level, using each popular search term. All popular search terms that match at least a predetermined number of
30 listings (e.g., 50 listings), located in each particular category, may be stored along with total number of listings located in the particular category using the popular

search term. Thus, each category may have a number of popular search terms or phrases (e.g., from 0 to a predetermined number) assigned to it along with a measurement of the popularity of the search term in that category. Thus, the system
10 allows a search to be conducted through current listings based on popular
5 searches (based on interaction of all users) and unique historical interaction of an

Figure 17 shows a diagrammatic representation of a machine in the example form of a computer system 1700 within which a set or sequence of instructions, for causing the machine to perform any one of the methodologies discussed herein, may be executed. In alternative embodiments, the machine may comprise a network
10 router, a network switch, a network bridge, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), a cellular telephone, a web appliance, set-top box (STB) or any machine capable of executing a sequence of instructions that specify actions to be taken by that machine.

The computer system 1700 includes a processor 1702, a main memory 1704
15 and a static memory 1706, which communicate with each other via a bus 1708. The computer system 1700 may further include a video display unit 1710 (e.g., a liquid crystal display (LCD) or a cathode ray tube (CRT)). The computer system 1700 also includes an alphanumeric input device 1712 (e.g., a keyboard), a cursor control device 1714 (e.g., a mouse), a disk drive unit 1716, a signal generation device 1718
20 (e.g., a speaker) and a network interface device 1720 to interface the computer system to a network 1722.

The disk drive unit 1716 includes a machine-readable medium 1724 on which is stored a set of instructions or software 1726 embodying any one, or all, of the methodologies described herein. The software 1726 is also shown to reside,
25 completely or at least partially, within the main memory 1704 and/or within the processor 1702. The software 1726 may further be transmitted or received via the network interface device 1720. For the purposes of this specification, the term “machine-readable medium” shall be taken to include any medium which is capable of storing or encoding a sequence of instructions for execution by the machine and
30 that cause the machine to perform any one of the methodologies of the present invention. The term “machine-readable medium” shall accordingly be taken to

10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 150 155 160 165 170 175 180 185 190 195 200 205 210 215 220 225 230 235 240 245 250 255 260 265 270 275 280 285 290 295 300 305 310 315 320 325 330 335 340 345 350 355 360 365 370 375 380 385 390 395 400 405 410 415 420 425 430 435 440 445 450 455 460 465 470 475 480 485 490 495 500 505 510 515 520 525 530 535 540 545 550 555 560 565 570 575 580 585 590 595 600 605 610 615 620 625 630 635 640 645 650 655 660 665 670 675 680 685 690 695 700 705 710 715 720 725 730 735 740 745 750 755 760 765 770 775 780 785 790 795 800 805 810 815 820 825 830 835 840 845 850 855 860 865 870 875 880 885 890 895 900 905 910 915 920 925 930 935 940 945 950 955 960 965 970 975 980 985 990 995

include, but not be limited to, solid-state memories, optical and magnetic disks, and carrier wave signals. Further, while the software is shown in Figure 17 to reside within a single device, it will be appreciated that the software 1726 could be distributed across multiple machines or storage media, which may include the machine-readable medium. The methods described herein may be usefully employed to improve the navigational efficiency of users and so result in a more efficient use of computing resources.

Although the invention has been described with reference to specific example embodiments, it will be evident that various modifications and changes may be made to these embodiments without departing from the broader spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, the specification and drawings are to be regarded in an illustrative rather than a restrictive sense.

What is claimed is:

1. A system comprising:
a search engine to execute a database search during a session, wherein the
5 data base search is based upon a current user determined search query; and
a recommendation engine to analyze prior searches performed for other
users to determine one or more recommended searches for the current user.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the recommendation engine analyzes a
10 search history of the other users and determines a success level in a predetermined
activity of the other users.
3. The system of claim 2 wherein the predetermined activity is a commerce
transaction.
15
4. The system of claim 3 wherein the commerce transaction is placing a bid in
an auction.
5. The system of claim 1 wherein the recommendation engine determines a
20 rank for the one or more recommended searches based on post-search user or
system behavior with respect to the database and the prior searches performed for
the other users.
6. The system of claim 5 wherein the user behavior indicates that subsequent to
25 each of the one or more recommended searches a threshold number of users
purchased one or more products/services identified by the associated recommended
search.
7. The system of claim 1 wherein the recommendation engine does not provide
30 the one or more recommended searches for the current user if the current user
determined search query contains an identified grammatical error. Th

8. The system of claim 1 wherein the current user determined search query contains a product title, and the recommendation filters the one or more recommended searches to avoid displaying recommendations that overlap with the product title.

9. A system comprising:
a search engine to execute a database search during a session, wherein the data base search is based upon a current user determined search query A; and
a recommendation engine to analyze prior searches performed for prior users and recommend search query B to the current user, wherein the recommendation engine tracks a number of prior users that performed search query A, then performed search query B, and then performed predetermined post-search activity with respect to a result set returned by search query B.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein search query B does not include terminology in common with search query A.

11. The system of claim 9 wherein the post-search activity comprises a threshold number of users purchased one or more products/services identified by search query B.

12. A method of making search recommendations comprising:
determining a first number of users that performed a database search using search query A;

determining a second number as a subset of the first number of users that performed a database search using search query B subsequent to performing the database search using search query A, and performed a predetermined post-search activity with respect to the search using search query B; and

recommending search query B to a current user executing a database search using the search query A.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the predetermined post-search activity with respect to the search using search query B comprises purchasing one or more products/services.
- 5
14. A machine-readable medium including a set of instructions that, when executed by a machine, perform the method of claim 12.
15. A method of managing a computerized commerce system where a user interface includes page views obtained during a session in response to user specified search queries, the method comprising:
- 10 tracking session data to determine sequential page views, wherein page view B is viewed immediately after page view A;
- editing the tracked session data based upon search queries including a search phrase and a category constraint used to view search pages A and B, wherein editing comprises eliminating the tracked session data if the category constraint of the search queries is not the same for both page views A and B, or if the search phrase of the search queries is the same for both page views A and B; and
- 15 maintaining a historical count of a number of times users viewed page view A followed page view B based upon the edited tracked session data.
- 20
16. The method of claim 15 wherein editing the tracked session data based upon a search phrase and a category constraint further comprises eliminating the tracked session data if the category constraint is on a prohibited list.
- 25
17. The method of claim 15 wherein editing the tracked session data based upon a search phrase and a category constraint further comprises eliminating the tracked session data if the search phrase contains a complex search operator.
- 30
18. The method of claim 15 wherein tracking session data further comprises tracking predetermined post-search user activity with respect to page view B.


19. The method of claim 18 wherein the predetermined post-search user activity comprises purchasing one or more products/services.
- 5 20. The method of claim 15 further comprises recommending a search query to view page view B in response to a user specified search query resulting in viewing page view A.
21. A method of managing a computerized commerce system having a user
10 interface including page views obtained during a session in response to specified search queries, the method comprising:
associating page views, wherein a first page view is associated with a second page view based upon viewing frequency and post search user activity;
receiving a user specified search query producing a search result including
15 the first page view; and
recommending a system specified search query to the producing a search result including the second page view.
22. A computer implemented method for use in a database search system
20 performing database searches and providing page views in response to search queries submitted by users, wherein each page view comprises a result set identifying the search results for the associated search query submitted, the computer implemented method comprising:
identifying sequential page views, where a sequential page view comprises a
25 pair of page views where the second page of the pair is viewed by the same user after the first page of the pair,
tracking sequential page views, and
using the resulting tracking information to provide a recommendation of one or more alternative search queries in response to a search query received from a
30 user.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein identifying sequential page views includes the step of eliminating sequential page views in the absence of predetermined post-search activity in response to the result set returned by the second page of each sequential page view.
- 5
24. The method of claim 23 wherein the predetermined post-search activity with comprises a user purchasing or making a bid for one or more products/services identified in the result set of the second page of the sequential page view.
- 10
25. A method according to claim 22 or claim 23, wherein identifying sequential page views includes the step of eliminating sequential page views wherein the search terms are common in the search queries of the first and second page views of the sequential page view.
- 15
26. The method of any one of claims 22 to 25, wherein tracking employs a threshold to eliminate less popular sequential page views.
- 20
27. The method of any one of claims 22 to 26, wherein sequential pair views are ignored if a search phrase of the search term associated with either page view of the pair contains a complex search operator.
- 25
28. The method of any one of claims 22 to 27 wherein the recommendation of one or more alternative search queries is provided as one or more links in the page view provided by the database search system to the user.
29. The method of any one of claims 22 to 28, wherein the individual search queries comprise a search phrase and a category constraint.
- 30
30. The method of claim 29, wherein tracking sequential page views uses the search phrases and a category constraints as tracking information.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising editing the tracked session data, wherein editing comprises eliminating the tracked session data for an individual sequential page view if the category constraint of the search queries is not the same for both page views or if the search phrase of the search queries is the same for both
5 page views.
32. A set of instructions stored on a computer readable storage medium which when run on a computer effect the method of any one of claims 22 to 31.
- 10 33. A search system for performing database searches and providing page views in response to search queries submitted by users, wherein each page view comprises a result set identifying the search results for the associated search query submitted, the search system being adapted to perform the method of any one of claims 22 to
31.

1/16

FERRARI	ALL CATEGORIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SEARCH	ADVANCED SEARCH
---------	----------------	-------------------------------------	--------	-----------------

☐ SEARCH TITLE AND DESCRIPTIONRELATED SEARCHES : LAMBORGHINI, PORSCHE, BENTLEY, ASTON MARTIN, MASERATI100 *FIG. 1*

2/16

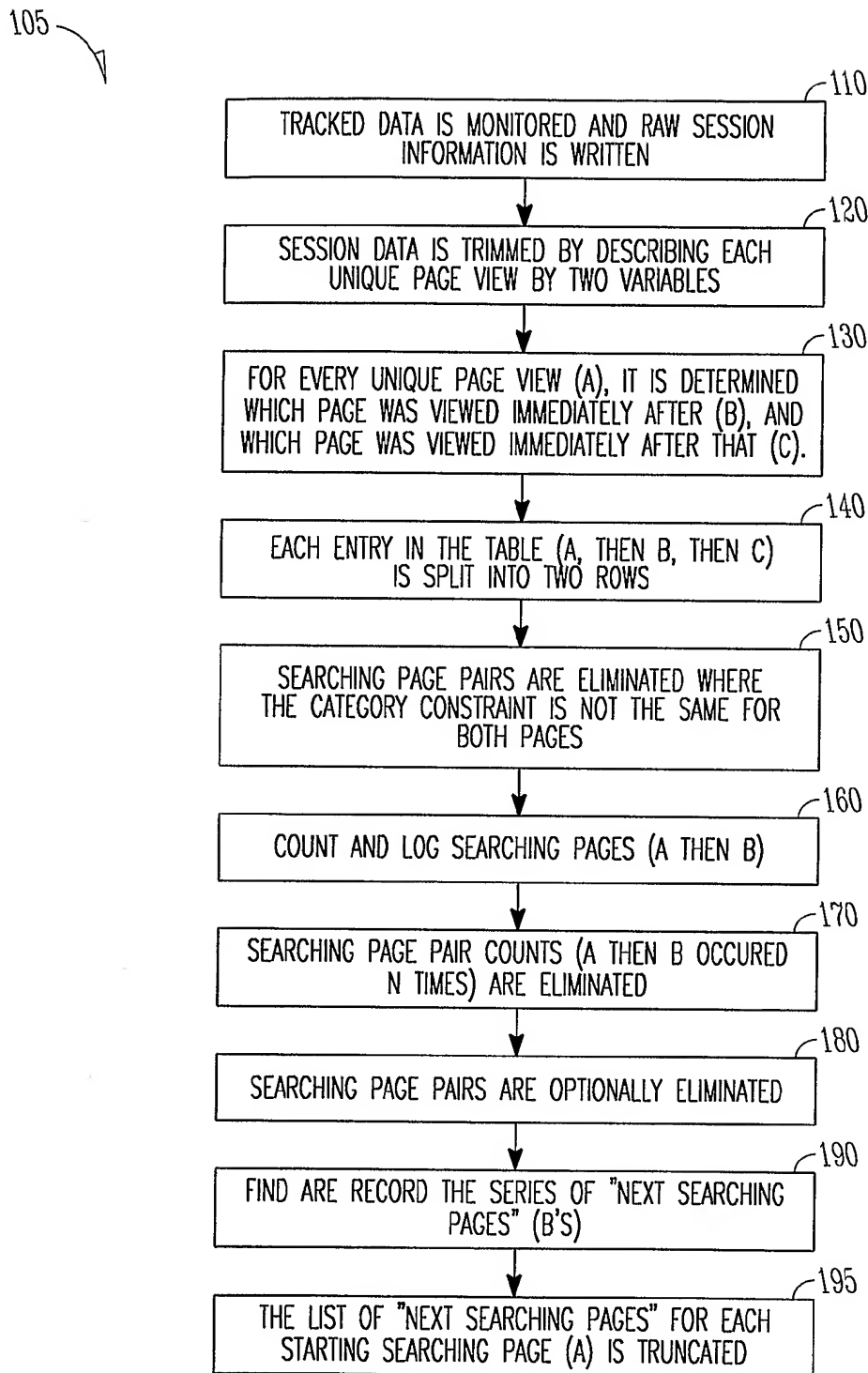


FIG. 2

ALL ITEMS

AUCTIONS

BUY IT NOW

SIGN IN TO SEE YOUR CUSTOMIZED SEARCH OPTIONS

SONY DVD PLAYER

ALL CATEGORIES

☒

ADVANCED SEARCH

SEARCH

☐ SEARCH TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

RELATED SEARCHES : SONY PROGRESSIVE SCAN DVD PLAYER, SONY DVD/VHS COMBO PLAYER, SONYPORTABLE DVD PLAYER

A
300

FIG. 3

4/16

HOME > ALL CATEGORIES > SEARCH RESULTS FOR 'ANTIQUE COUNTRY FRENCH KITCHEN CHAIRS'

☐ SEARCH TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

8 ITEMS FOUND FOR ANTIQUE COUNTRY FRENCH KITCHEN CHAIRS WITH OTHER CLOSE MATCHES BELOW • [ADD TO FAVORITES](#)

MATCHING CATEGORIES

 ANTIQUES (7)

 • [FURNITURE \(7\)](#)

 HOME & GARDEN(4)

 • [FURNITURE \(4\)](#)

SHOW ONLY:

☒ ITEMS LISTED WITH PAYPAL

☐ BUY IT NOW ITEMS

☐ GIFT ITEMS

☐ ITEMS LISTED AS LOTS

☐ COMPLETED LISTINGS

☐ LISTINGS

ENDING WITHIN

☒ ITEMS PRICED TO





☒ ITEMS WITHIN MILES OF

CUSTOMIZE OPTIONS DISPLAYED ABOVE.

LIST VIEW | [PICTURE GALLERY](#)

DID YOU MEAN...[ANTIQUE COUNTRY FRENCH KITCHEN CHAIRS \(125 ITEMS\)?](#)

SORT BY: [TIME- ENDING SOONEST](#) ☒ [CUSTOMIZE DISPLAY](#)

	COMPARE	ITEM TITLE	PAY PAL	PRICE	BIDS	TIME LIST
<input type="checkbox"/>  ANTIQUE COUNTRY FRENCH DINING ROOM CHAIRS CHAIRWOMAN THE ENTIRE SET IS ON EBAY ALL STARTING @ \$1 & NO RESERVE				\$20.50	6	6d 07h 12m
<input type="checkbox"/>  ANTIQUE FRENCH COUNTRY LADIES VANITY CHAIR BEAUTIFUL				\$9.95	1	6h 04m
<input type="checkbox"/>  8 FRENCH COUNTRY DINING CHAIRS ANTIQUE BLACK RUB GREAT WITH REPRODUCTION FARM TABLE FROM RECLAIMED PINE				\$1,269.00	-	21h 46m
<input type="checkbox"/>  ANTIQUE FRENCH COUNTRY DINING CHAIRS				\$900.00	-	2d 08h 48m

400

FIG. 4

DECEPTION POINT

ALL CATEGORIES

☒

SEARCH

ADVANCED SEARCH

☐ SEARCH TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

RELATED SEARCHES : ANGELS AND DEMONS, DIGITAL FORTRESS

MATCHING CATEGORIES

109 ITEMS FOUND FOR DECEPTION POINT

BOOKS(105)

• FICTION BOOKS(68)

• AUDIOBOOKS(13)

• NONFICTION BOOKS(3)

💡 PRODUCTS:

▢ BOOK: DECEPTION POINT (DAN BROWN, SOFTCOVER)

▢ BOOK: DECEPTION POINT (DAN BROWN)

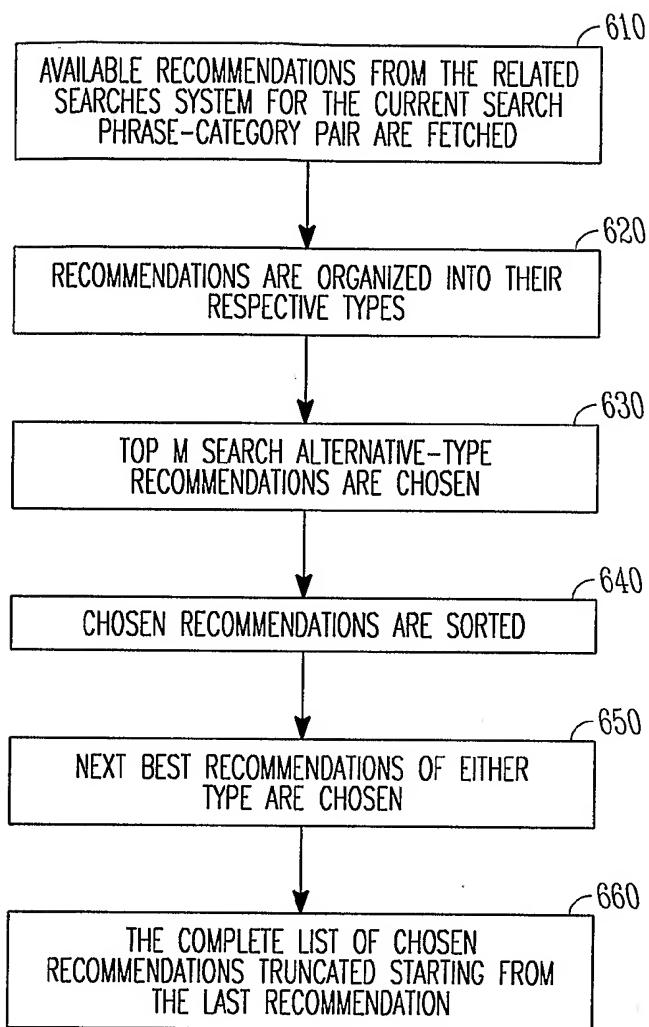
▢ BOOK: POINT DECEPTION(MARCIA MULLER, HARDCOVER) MORE...

500

FIG. 5

6/16

600

*FIG. 6*

ALL ITEMS	AUCTIONS	BUY IT NOW	SIGN IN TO SEE YOUR CUSTOMIZED SEARCH OPTIONS	
SONY DVD PLAYER		ALL CATEGORIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ADVANCED SEARCH
<input type="checkbox"/> SEARCH TITLE AND DESCRIPTION				
RELATED SEARCHES : <u>SONY PROGRESSIVE SCAN DVD PLAYER</u> , <u>SONY DVD/VHS COMBO PLAYER</u> , <u>SONY PORTABLE DVD PLAYER</u>				
MATCHING CATEGORIES		928 ITEMS FOUND FOR SONY DVD PLAYER		
<div> <div> TRY: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>DVD PLAYERS & RECORDERS > SINGLE DISC DVD PLAYERS > U.S./SIMPLE REGION > SONY (743)</u> • <u>DVD PLAYERS & RECORDERS (510)</u> • <u>HOME AUDIO(128)</u> </div> <div> LIST VIEW <u>PICTURE GALLERY</u> </div> <div> SORT BY: <u>TIME ENDING SOONEST</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </div> <div> CUSTOMIZE DISPLAY </div> </div>				


FIG. 7

700

ALL ITEMS	AUCTIONS	BUY IT NOW	SIGN IN TO SEE YOUR CUSTOMIZED SEARCH OPTIONS	
SONY DVD PLAYER		ALL CATEGORIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ADVANCED SEARCH
<input type="checkbox"/> SEARCH TITLE AND DESCRIPTION				
RELATED SEARCHES : <u>SONY PROGRESSIVE SCAN DVD PLAYER</u> , <u>SONY DVD/VHS COMBO PLAYER</u> , <u>SONY PORTABLE DVD PLAYER</u>				

FIG. 8A


800


[首页](#) | [网站地图](#) | [诚信与安全](#) | [注册](#)

[买东西](#) | [卖东西](#) | [我的易趣](#) | [社区](#) | [帮助](#)

[开始新的搜索](#) ☒ [搜索](#) [高级搜索](#)

您好！请[登录](#)或[注册](#)。

POWERED BY 

[首页](#) > [所有分类](#) > "SONY DVD PLAYER" 搜索结果

在搜索结果: [搜索](#) [高级搜索](#)

☐ 在物品名称和描述中同时搜索

相关搜索: [索尼 进步扫描 DVD 机](#) [索尼 DVD/VHS 组合球员](#) [索尼 便携式 DVD 机](#)

物品所在地: [搜索](#) [加入关注](#)

符合条件的分类: ☒ [所有地区](#) [排序方式](#) [按登录时间排序](#) [即将结束物品优先](#) [自定义显示](#)

FIG. 8B

9/16

RELATED SEARCHES		
TOP 9 RELATED SEARCHES FOR EBAY		
SEARCH REFINEMENTS:		
• <u>EBAY MOTORS</u>	• <u>EBAY AUCTION</u>	• <u>MY EBAY</u>
• <u>EBAY.COM</u>	• <u>EBAY EDUCATION</u>	• <u>EBAY UNIVERSITY</u>
• <u>BOOKS ON EBAY</u>	• <u>EBAY STORES</u>	• <u>SELLING ON EBAY</u>

900

FIG. 9A

RELATED SEARCHES		
TOP 15 RELATED SEARCHES FOR EBAY		
SEARCH REFINEMENTS:		
• <u>EBAY MOTORS</u>	• <u>EBAY AUCTION</u>	• <u>MY EBAY</u>
• <u>EBAY.COM</u>	• <u>EBAY EDUCATION</u>	• <u>EBAY UNIVERSITY</u>
• <u>BOOKS ON EBAY</u>	• <u>EBAY STORES</u>	• <u>SELLING ON EBAY</u>
SEARCH ALTERNATIVES:		
• <u>HALF.COM</u>	• <u>PAYPAL</u>	• <u>PAYPAL CREDIT CARD</u>
• <u>RENT.COM</u>	• <u>CRAIG'S LIST</u>	• <u>AUCTION NEWS</u>

910

FIG. 9B

RELATED SEARCHES		
SEARCH REFINEMENTS:		
• <u>ROLEX SUBMARINER</u>	• <u>ROLEX EXPLORER</u>	• <u>ROLEX BAND</u>
• <u>ROLEX WATCH</u>	• <u>MENS ROLEX</u>	• <u>LADIES ROLEX</u>
• <u>ROLEX DAYTONA</u>	• <u>ROLEX OYSTER</u>	• <u>ROLEX DATEJUST</u>

1000

FIG. 10

10/16

RELATED SEARCHES

SEARCH REFINEMENTS:

- ROLEX SUBMARINER
- ROLEX DATEJUST
- ROLEX OYSTER
- ROLEX WATCH
- ROLEX EXPLORER
- ROLEX IMITATION WATCHES
- ROLEX DAYTONA
- MENS ROLEX
- ROLEX BAND

SEARCH ALTERNATIVES:

- OMEGA
- MOVADO
- DESIGNER WATCHES
- TAG HEUER DESIGNER WATCHES
- TIFFANY
- LADIES JEWELERY WATCHES
- CARTIER
- CLASSIC WATCHES
- MENS WATCHES

1100

FIG. 11

11/16

eBay HOME | PAY | REGISTER | SERVICES | SITE MAP
 BUY | SELL | MY EBAY | COMMUNITY | HELP

START NEW SEARCH SEARCH
 ADVANCED SEARCH

POWERED BY IBM

HOME > MY EBAY > ALL BUYING > FAVORITE MERCHANDISE

My eBay

HELLO, SKITTERBALL (56★) ME

FREE \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE UPON FIRST CARD USE

MY EBAY VIEWS
 MY SUMMARY
 ALL BUYING
 • WATCHING(14)
 • BIDDING(1)
 • WON(1)
 • DIDN'T WIN
 PERSONALIZED PICKS
 ALL SELLING
 • SCHEDULED
 • SELLING
 • SOLD
 • UNSOLD
 MY MESSAGES (1) NEW
 ALL FAVORITES
 • SEARCHES
 • SELLERS
 • CATEGORIES
 MY ACCOUNT
 • PERSONAL INFORMATION
 • ADDRESSES
 • MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS
 • EBAY PREFERENCES
 • FEEDBACK
 • SELLER ACCOUNT
 • PAYPAL ACCOUNT
 ITEM COUNTS DELAYED. REFRESH

PERSONALIZED PICKS ARE UPDATED BASED ON ITEMS YOU BROWSE FOR OR BUY

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON YOUR LAST SEARCH
 YOUR LAST SEARCH WAS HARRY POTTER. HERE ARE SOME RELATED SEARCHES.

SEARCH REFINEMENTS:
HARRY POTTER BOOKS HARRY POTTER LEGO HARRY POTTER DVD
HARRY POTTER WATCH HARRY POTTER SCARF HARRY POTTER CHESS
HARRY POTTER MEMORABILIA HARRY POTTER POSTER HARRY POTTER LUNCH BOX

SEARCH ALTERNATIVES:
PRISONER OF AZKABAN J K ROWLING TOLKIEN BOOKS
LORD OF THE RINGS PETER PAN

[BACK TO TOP](#)

SIMILAR TO ENDED ITEMS
 SIMILAR TO: SUPER SOFT NUZZLE NEST DOG BED/PILLOW 18IN. COLOR BLACK NEW!! NEW!

<p><u>DELUXE SHERPA NUZZLE</u> <u>NEST DOG BED. 30" HUNTER</u> <u>MEDIUM SIZE 80CMSx60CMSx</u> <u>16CMS</u> <u>\$2.00</u> <u>TIME LEFT: 23h 23m</u> BID NOW!</p>	<p><u>SUPER SOFT NUZZLE NEST DOG</u> <u>BED/PILLOW 18IN. NEW!</u> <u>\$25.00 ==BUY IT NOW</u> <u>TIME LEFT: 1d 8h 54m</u> BUY IT NOW!</p>
--	---

1200

FIG. 12

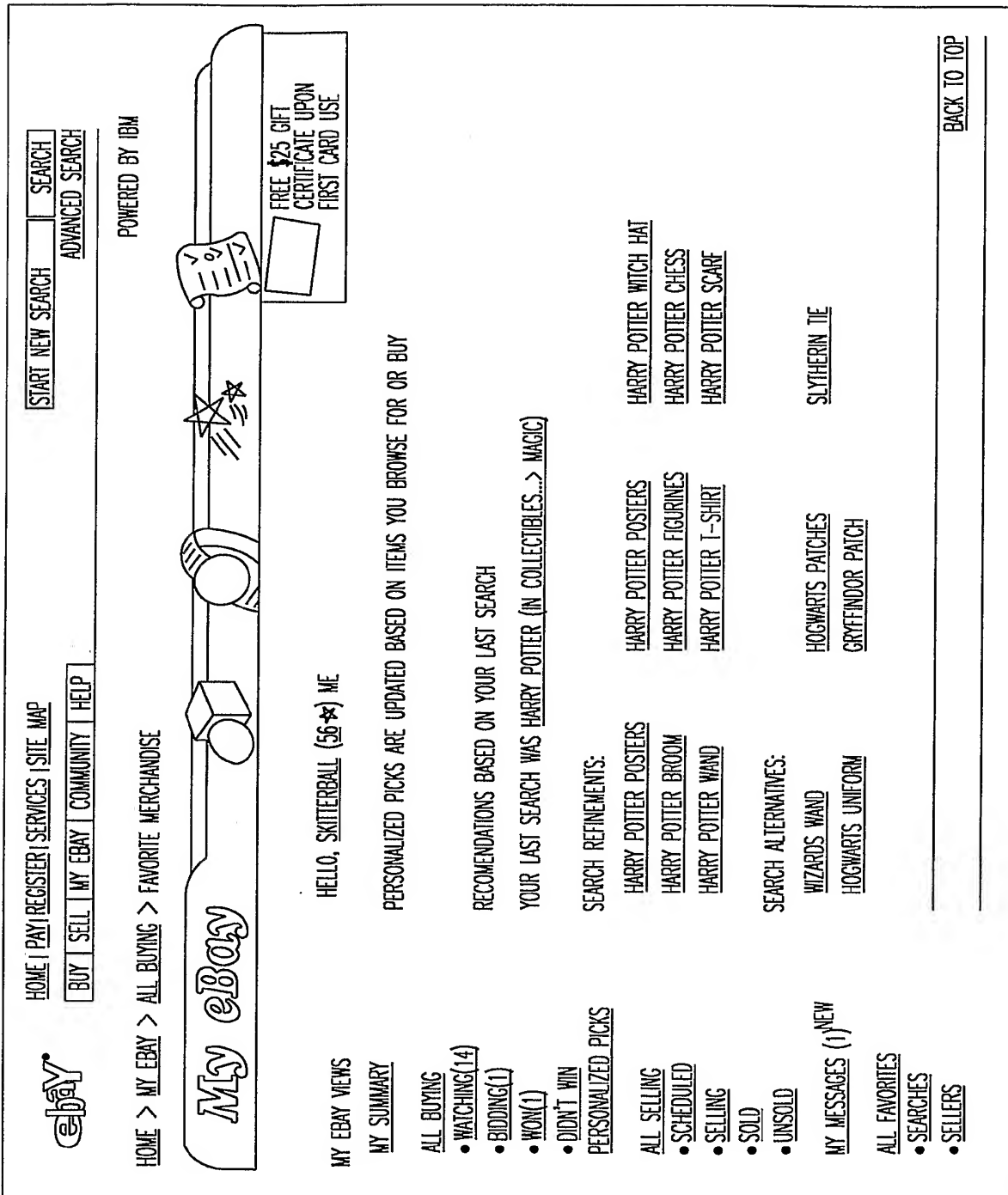


FIG. 13

13/16

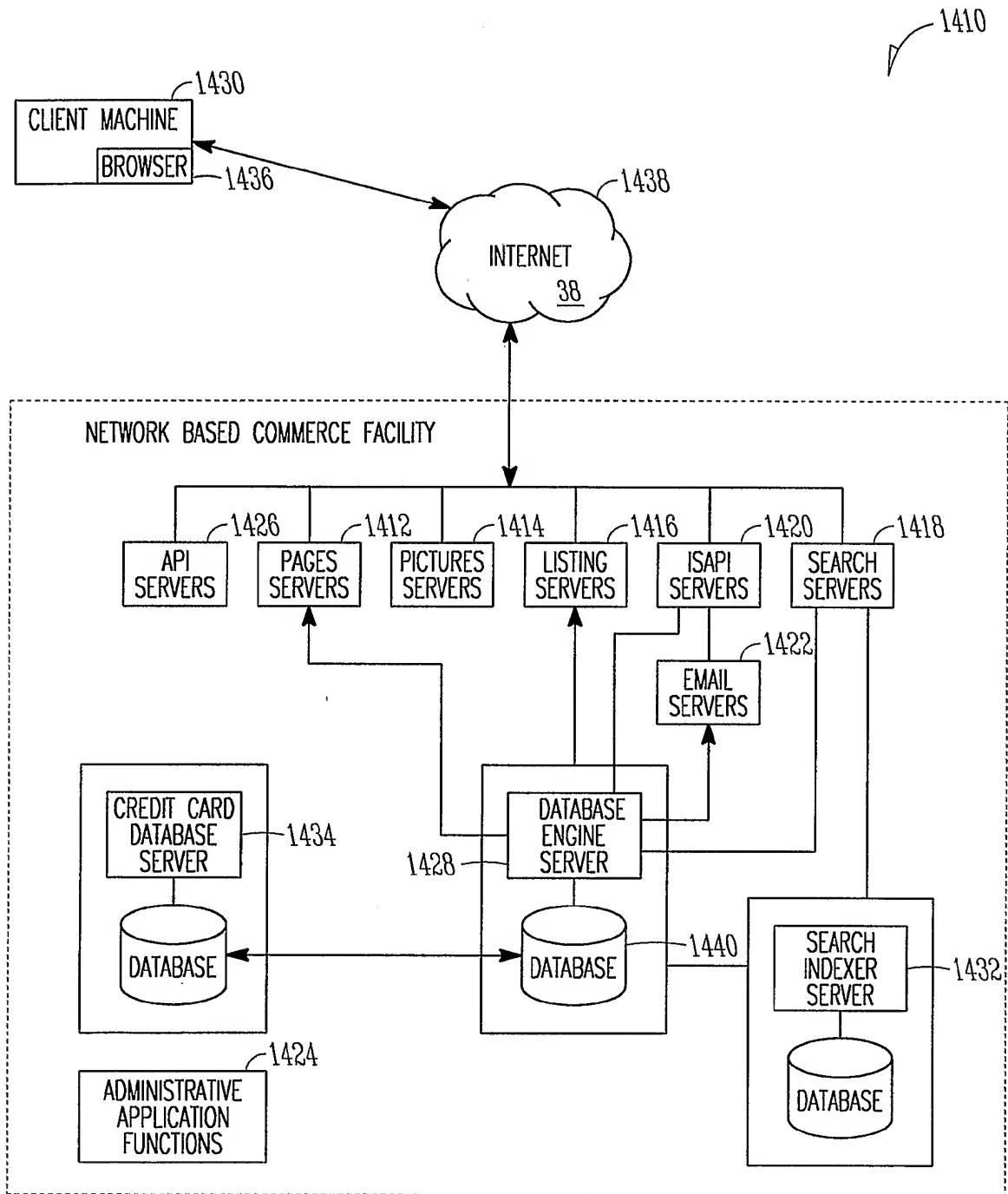
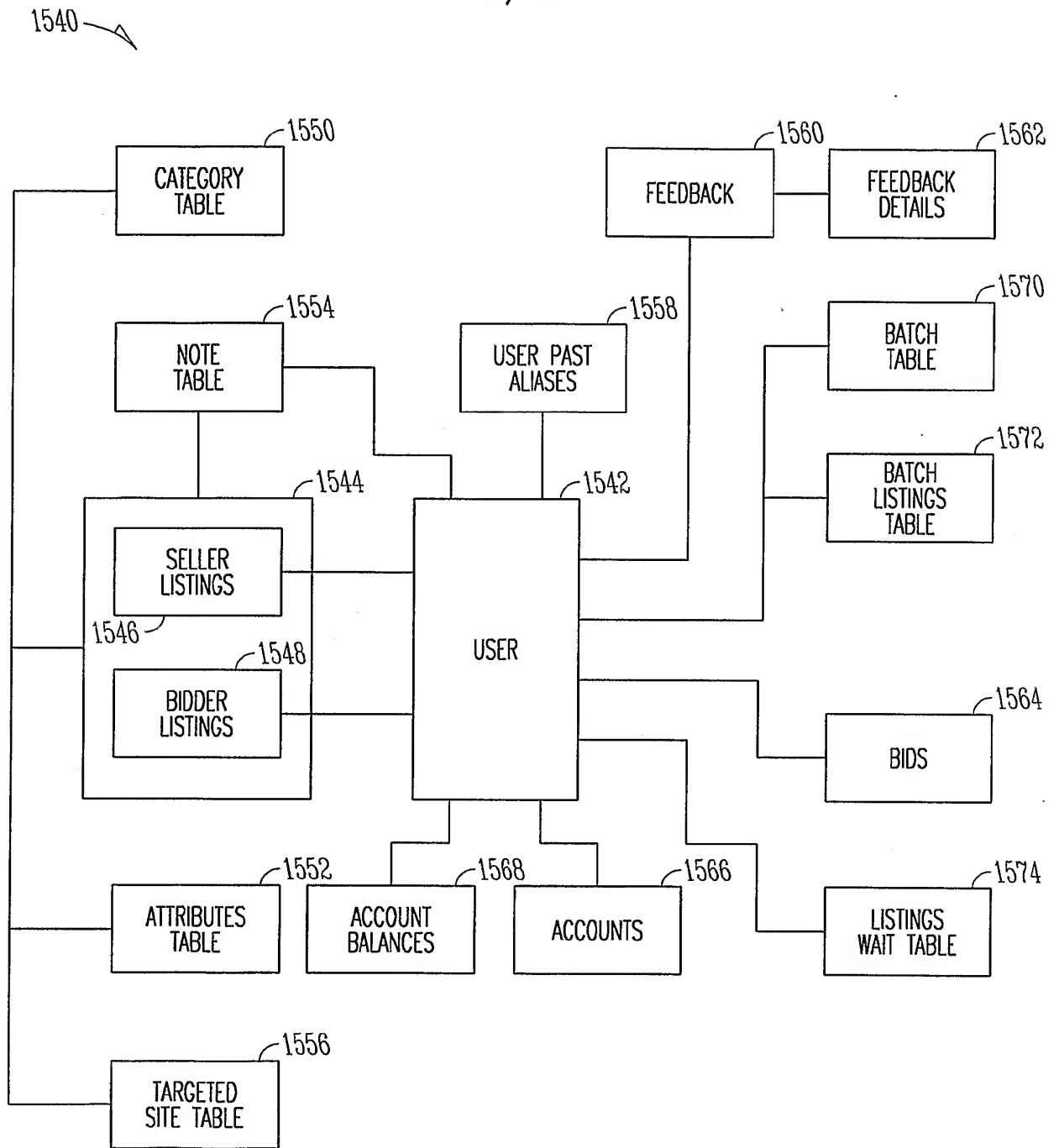


FIG. 14

14/16

*FIG. 15*

1680

LOGIC FOR GENERATING RECOMMENDATION QUERIES

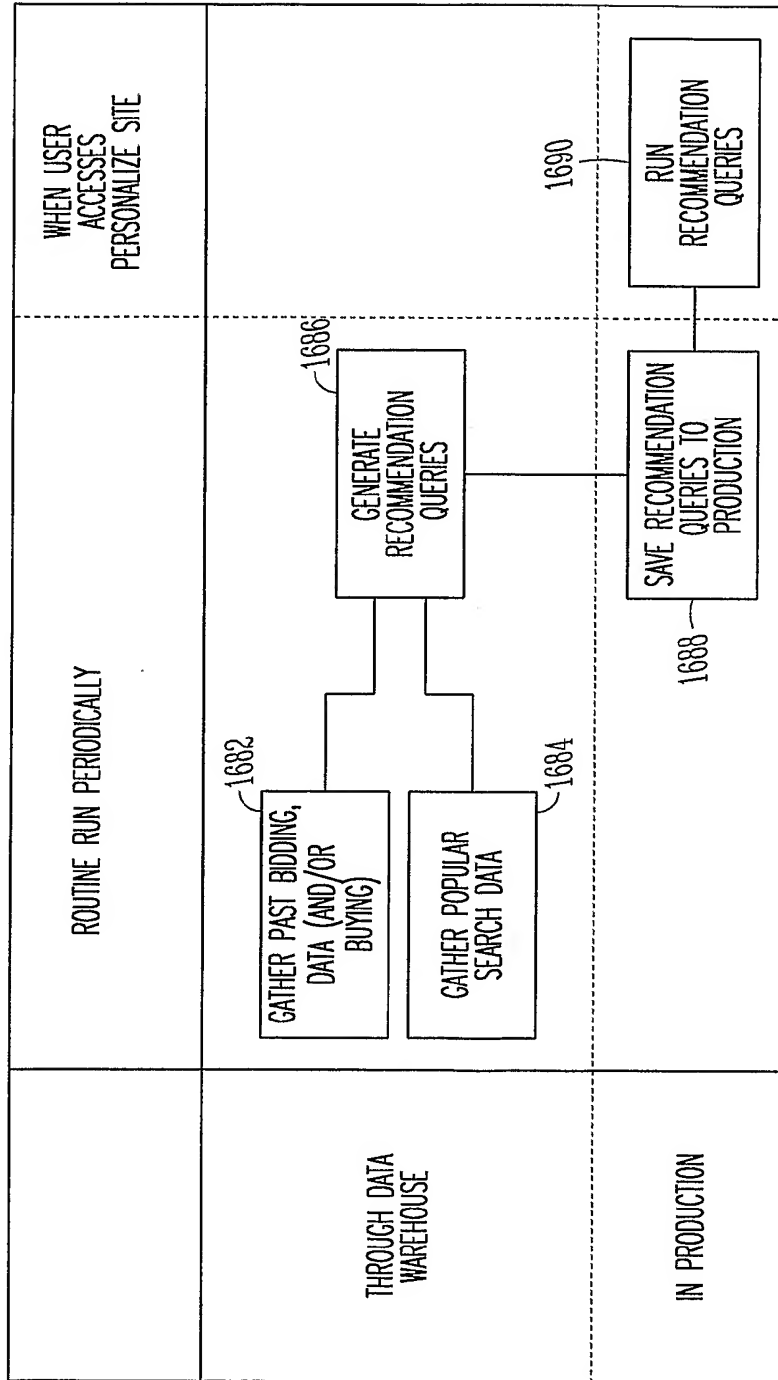


FIG. 16

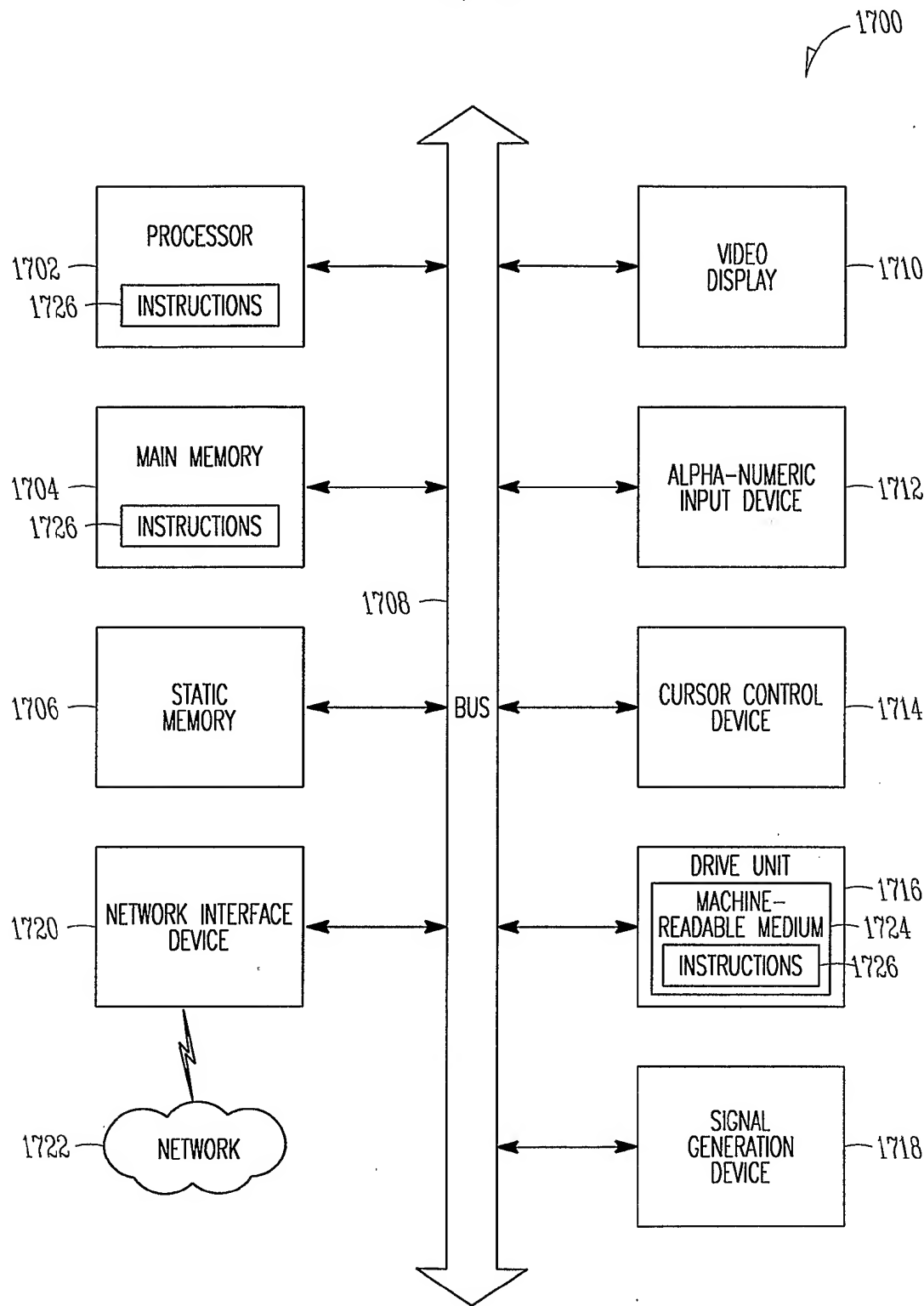


FIG. 17